

Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

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Number 25



MAY WE *Quote* YOU ON THAT?

When you have perused your customary passages from DICKENS and THACKERAY anent the observance of Merrie Christmas in Olde England, may we suggest for collateral reading a little item that crept into the public prints this wk, via United Press: "The British Gov't's Christmas present to the ration-starved people: the right to buy an extra dime's worth of rationed meat, 4 oz's of candy and a lb of sugar during the holiday season."

In our own land, prices rise to astronomical highs and headlines thunder portentiously of consumer rationing (which, in all probability, will not come to pass.) Yet despite, or perhaps *because* of these disconcertions, it is a season to meditate upon our blessings. A time to recollect that the Spirit of Christmas is a thing of the heart, and not the alimentary canal. We, of the staff of *QUOTE*, greet this season with rejoicing. As we said a yr ago, one of the nice things about Christmas is the opportunity to express pleasant thoughts we have too long been hoarding in our hearts. So, to our readers (and there are thousands more of them this yr!) it is our treasured privilege to say again:

A Merry Christmas to All, and to All a Good Year!

DR E M JELLINEK, Director of Yale School of Alcoholic Studies, speaking to Conf of Allied Youth: "All thru history man has used constructive and destructive ways of relieving tension. The destructive one, intoxication, doesn't require intellectual effort." 1-Q

FRENCH Foreign Minister GEORGES BIDAULT, commenting on futility of "Big 4" conference in London: "We are going around in circles, a process which tends to make one sick." 2-Q

WINSTON CHURCHILL, former British prime minister: "I am quite sure that Socialism will make it impossible for 48 million to live in this island. At least a quarter of all who are alive today will have to disappear in one way or another after enduring a lowering of standards of food and comfort inconceivable in the last 50 yrs." 3-Q

E A BARIT, pres of Hudson Motor Car Co: "Goodwill was never as easy to buy as today." 4-Q

Rep KARL E MUNDT, of South Dakota: "Communism is like a man on a bicycle; when you stop it, it will fall over." 5-Q

Taegliche Rundschau, official publication of Russian occupation forces in Germany: "The Soviet Union and the Soviet people suffered the hardest blows. They saved practically all Europe and America before the plundering attacks of the Fascists." 6-Q

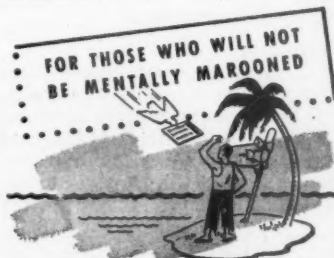
GEO BERNARD SHAW, in letter to *London Times*, campaigning for

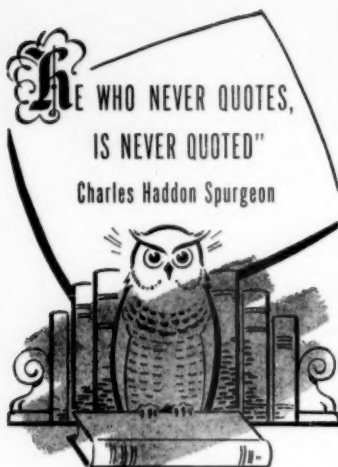
"liquidation" of criminals who cannot be reformed into useful, law abiding citizens: "A vitriol thrower should be got rid of as ruthlessly as a cobra or a mad dog." 7-Q

DR LYNDON O BROWN, pres of Knox College: "Democracy in this country is drying up at the grass roots." 8-Q

DR NELSON GLUECK, pres of Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati: "I am confident that the Jews and Arabs can and will find ways of living together for their mutual benefit, and that together they can rebuild ways for Palestine to serve as a model of relations between human beings." 9-Q

BERTRAND RUSSELL, British philosopher: "Reluctantly I have been driven to the conclusion that the Soviet Gov't foresees within a few yrs a situation in which it can win an atomic war. We may therefore expect its policy, if the West permits, to be one of temporizing until that time comes, while refusing steadfastly to agree to any plan which would make an atomic war impossible." 10-Q





ACCOMPLISHMENT—1

If we could only make our hands move as quickly as our tongues, what wonders we could accomplish. —JOHN WANAMAKER.

BARGAIN—2

Just what does the word, Bargain, mean to you? Does it mean: "An agreement between parties to a transaction settling what each shall Give and Receive?" If it does, then your reasoning is stimulated to determine a satisfactory relationship between parties.

Or does it mean: "You made a Bad Bargain?" Does that cause you to reason constructively, or does it arouse your emotions and stimulate a desire to "get even" or "secure an advantage" the 1st time the opportunity arises?

Or does it mean: "To Haggle-Barter-Trade-Dicker?" If it does, then you become emotionally defensive and with a natural human desire to get as much as possible and give as little as possible.—R A BALZARI, *Nashua Cavalier*, hm, Nashua Gummed & Coated Paper Co.

BEHAVIOR—3

Actions don't always speak louder than words, but they generally tell fewer lies.—*Wesley News*.

BIBLE—4

A young Christian, packing his bag for a journey, said to a friend, "I have nearly finished packing. All I have to put in the bag yet are a guide book, a lamp, a mirror, a microscope, a telescope, a vol of fine poetry, a few biogra-

phies, a pkg of old letters, a book of songs, a sword, a hammer, and a set of books I have been studying." Then he placed his Bible in a corner of the suitcase and closed it. —C NORMAN BARTLETT, "When God Became a Servant," *Moody Monthly*, 12-'47.

CHRISTMAS—5

Handel set off for a trip to Dublin, having been invited by its famous Academy of Musik. He took with him the score of the completed *Messiah* and several singers, who were to take part in the premiere. Dublin had a fine new concert hall with room for 600 people. But the concert created such a commotion and the demand for tickets was so great that the newspapers begged that the "Ladies who honour this performance with their Presence would be pleased to come without Hoops, as it will greatly encrease the Charity by making Room for more Company"; the gentlemen were desired to come without their swords. By this diminution in apparel, 700 instead of 600 people were able to attend.—GEO MAREK, "The Most Famous Christmas Music," *Good Housekeeping*, 12-'47.

CHURCH—Attendance—6

Some people must think the Sunday service is like a convention; many families just send one delegate.—*Pastor's Wife*.

CIVILIZATION—7

Civilization is fighting for its very life; all the seemingly little indulgences multiplied a billionfold may become the decisive factor in its survival.—N E A Jnl.

COST-OF-LIVING—8

Reader Bennett Moore, of Boston, mentioned in a recent letter: "For the 1st time in history, the high cost of living has caught up with and passed the cost of high living."—*This Wk*.

CYNICISM—9

The ties of affection binding men to their fellows and to certain objects are so loose and thin today that we no longer feel absence in the same way as before. There is a terrible word in a Jewish story. "Are you going over there? How far away you'll be!" "Far from where?" The "where" that they have left behind them turns out to be nothing more than a vague col-

lection of habits. In this age of divorce we can divorce ourselves from things as easily as from persons. Automatic refrigerators are interchangeable. The home is just an assembly of parts. Likewise a wife, a religion, or a party. We cannot even be unfaithful. What should we be unfaithful to? Far from where and unfaithful to what? Man is a desert.—ANTOINE DE ST-EXUPERY, "A Letter to Gen'l X," *Town & Country*, 12-'47.

DRINK—Drinking—10

The great Canadian physician Sir Wm Osler was lecturing one day on alcohol.

"Is it true," asked a student, "that alcohol makes people able to do things better?"

"No," repl'd Sir Wm. "It just makes them less ashamed of doing them badly."—*Alliance News*.

EDUCATION—11

Broadening the mind is doubtless a good thing, but it should also be deepened enough for a big idea to float without going aground.—*Construction Digest*.

And Jesus Was Born

When Christ was born, a new creative force began to produce a better civilization. As Laurence Housman said, "Light looked down and beheld Darkness,

'Hither will I go,' said Light. Peace looked down and beheld War,

'Hither will I go,' said Peace. Love looked down and beheld Hatred,

'Hither will I go,' said Love. So came Light, and shone; So came Peace, and gave rest; So came Love, and brought Life.

Light and Peace and Love said, 'Hither will I go,' and Jesus was born." —TEUNIS E GOUWENS, *Pulpit Preaching*. 12

FORGIVENESS—13

How to forgive is something we have to learn, not as a duty or an obligation, but as an experience akin to the experience of love; it must come into being spontaneously. —DR THEO CUYLER SPEERS, *Forbes*.

FRUGALITY—14

The height of folly is to live poor so you may die rich.—CARLING DINKLER, *Inn Dixie*.

GOOD & EVIL—15

Evil itself we cannot escape. All men are not good and no man is always good. Evil and goodness are intermingled, as are life and death, health and disease, light and darkness, hope and despair.—EDWARD C LINDEMAN, "The Enduring Goal," *Survey Graphic*, 11-47.

GOVT—Cost—16

The cost of running our gov't is \$72,000 per min, of which \$9,000 is interest! — *Sterling Sparks*, hm, Sterling Grinding Wheel Division.

GROWTH—17

Every man must do his own growing—no matter who his grandfather was.—RAY EVERSON, *Farmer's Guide*.

HOME—18

If the law were to edict that man and wife should never be together for more than 6 mo's in the yr, it would be broken every day, and men and women would stand hunger and stripes to come together for 12 mo's in 12. If love of home were made a crime, a family life would arise more touching than anything Queen Victoria ever dreamed. — W L GEORGE, *Ladies' Home Jnl*.

HOPE—19

We need hope for living, far more than for dying. Dying is easy work, compared with living. Dying is a moment's transition; living, a transaction of yrs. It is the length of the rope that puts the sag in it. Hope tightens the words and tunes up the heartstrings. — *Telescope-Messenger*.

INFLATION—20

Inflation is when the creaking of the pillars of the economic system can't be heard above the rustling of the banknotes. — *Townsent Nat'l Wkly*.

LANGUAGE—Power of—21

Having a 1st edition of Uncle Remus to sell, a dealer in rare

books catalogued it as "binding shaken; leaves soiled and stained." Not a soul bit. So the next time he listed it this way: "leaves loosened and soiled by the eager hands of loving children." He got 3 telegrams for it!—*Rotarian*.

LIFE—22

Life will not stay still and let us alone. We are continually opening doors with hope, closing them with despair. Life lasts not much longer than a pipe of tobacco, and destiny knocks us out like the ashes. — CHRISTOPHER MORLEY, *Mince Pie*.

Christmas Is More Than a Day

It is the souls of all the little children of the world

It is the hopes and prayers of older people who have tasted fear and pain and dread and want—and see the 1st beginnings of a little light that favoring winds will kindle to a flame

Christmas is more than a day—

It is the memory of all memories within the compass of human minds and hearts.

A memory of little things, almost forgotten—

A memory of great events in each one's life.

If each Christmas can be but the rebirth of great thoughts and firm resolves to make ideals come true,

Then, truly, Christmas is a day to be honored by all good people of every faith and creed—

In every village, in every home—And each in his own way—each in the forms and rituals of his fathers can pray for peace on earth and good will to men.—
—JACK LEWIS, *Judy's*. 23

OPPORTUNITY—Limited—24

There is an appalling discrepancy between the dreams of American youth and the possibility of their achievement, the notion fostered by teachers, by novels and stories, by movies and radio that "there is always room at the top." That is why

many of our colleges are hag-ridden now with an overload of students feverishly ambitious to become engineers, statesmen, lawyers, doctors. Few of them have any concept of either the comparatively few jobs there are to be had at the top or of the kinds of disciplines, struggles and sacrifices req'd to reach them or of the actually limited rewards they offer.—MALCOLM S MACLEAN, *Western Col Ass'n Jnl*.

PHILOSOPHY—25

Asked how she managed to remain so beautiful and youthful when she was more than 70 yrs old, the famed star, Marie Tempest repl'd: "The ideal method of avoiding an aging accumulation of possessions and thoughts is to move into a fresh house in a new district every 5 yrs."—IRVING HOFFMAN, *Hollywood Reporter*.

POWER—Liberty—26

Power and liberty are like heat and moisture, where they are well mixed, everything prospers; when they are single, they are destructive.—GEO HALIFAX, *Papyrus*, Midwest Paper Sales Co.

RIGHTEOUSNESS—27

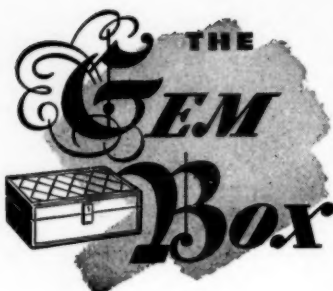
Righteousness is one of the integral parts of the whole Christmas Story. As the old Christmas hymn sings it: "He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love." I once heard Bishop McConnell in his Yale lectures say: "The ultimate and final proof of a so-called mystical experience of conversion is whether or not that experience makes you a better neighbor, family man and citizen. If it does not, one may question the validity of the experience, no matter how spectacular." So it is with Christmas. If we do not carry the spirit of Christmas over into human life, and into the New Yr, we may question the sincerity, reality, and validity of that experience.—DR WM L STIDGER, *Christian Herald*.

LUCY HITTE, Editor

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Droke House



The Story of Silent Night

CLYDE H DENNIS

On Christmas Eve in 1818, Franz Gruber, church organist in the little town of Oberndorf, Bavaria, made an alarming discovery. The organ would not play! For several days previous to Christmas Eve, Oberndorf had been snowbound. Gruber, knowing there was no one in Oberndorf capable of repairing the organ, was afraid there would be no music for Christmas. He could hardly imagine Christmas without music. Quickly he went to the vicar, Jos Mohr, and told him his story. He asked Mohr to write a new Christmas song which could be easily sung without the organ.

Later as Mohr sat reading Christmas stories from his Bible... "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour..." the words welled up in his soul like a heavenly anthem. He wrote a poem about the wondrous story.

Early the next day, Gruber took the newly-written words and composed a melody. The people of Oberndorf loved the song immediately... and thus, Jos Mohr and Franz Gruber gave to the world one of the most beautiful and best loved of the Christmas carols.

It was not long before the Tyrolean singers took the song to America. For yrs it went under the title, "Song From Heaven." It was more quickly and better known in America than in Europe, and today "Silent Night" is sung in nearly every language in the world.

Oh, that the real meaning of Christmas would grip each one this season as, like Jos Mohr, you consider these glorious words: "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11) — Abridged from Good News Publishing Co Tract.

RUSSIA—28

Recently a handsome book of Czech folk tales and prayers by Nerudni was translated into Russian. But every appeal to God in the prayers was changed to an appeal to "our beloved collective."—*Worldover Press.*

" "

The text of a litany in a new edition of a prayer book was submitted to the Soviet censors in Berlin for approval. One invocation read, "That thou mayest grant us a God-fearing gov't." Another one was, "That Thou mayest free the victims of unjust violence from all oppression."

Both were blue-penciled.—*NCWC.*

SEXES—Equality—29

Until a husband can get alimony by crossing his legs and showing his garters to the judge, equal rights are only a snare and a delusion.—*Phoenix Flame.*

SPEECH—Speaking—30

Speeches are judged not by their length but by their quality. It is something like the story of the young housewife who was complaining of the small piece of ice that had been left in response to her order for 50 lbs. The iceman repl'd, "But notice, ma'am, the firm and excellent quality of it. In buying ice your motto should be, 'Not how much, but how good.'"—*Speakers Magazine.*

STRATEGY—31

A Dominican and a Jesuit wanted to smoke while walking in the garden. They agreed that each would ask his Superior for permission. The Dominican ret'd to find the Jesuit smoking, and complained indignantly, "I was refused!"

"What did you ask?" inq'd the Jesuit.

"I asked if I could smoke while meditating."

"Oh," said the Jesuit, blowing a reflective smoke ring, "I asked if I could meditate while smoking." — *Deadline Delayed.*

SUPERSTITION—32

The custom of walking around ladders has its origin in a very ancient superstition. A leaning ladder forms a triangle, the symbol of life in ancient times. The ancients feared that stepping into the triangle would break the symbol, thus

endangering their lives. — *WILLY LEY, "What Do You Know About Your Superstitions, Woman's Home Companion, 12-'47.*

UNITED NATIONS—33

The foremost problem of the United Nations is to get themselves out from behind the hate-ball.—*PETE SIMER, Wkly Progress.*

VIEWPOINT—34

When you look at the world in a narrow way, how narrow it seems! When you look at it in a mean way, how mean it is! When you look at it selfishly, how selfish it is! But when you look at it in a broad, generous, friendly spirit, what wonderful people you find in it.—*L & N Magazine, Louisville & Nashville Ry.*

And Bind Us in Understanding Fellowship

Christmas emphasizes the all-encompassing love of God; Hanukkah (Jewish festival of rededication), the freedom without which conscience cannot exercise its privilege of active faith nor man worship in spirit and in truth. Binding these festivals in fellowship is the ancient symbolism of light which thru all the ages has been man's beacon pointing toward truth and goodness and beauty.

Without minimizing the fundamental differences of doctrine and theology, can we not, at the time of Christmas and Hanukkah, try to understand and appreciate one another and seek to work more effectively at those enterprises of world-citizenship that are of greater importance than anything that sets us apart one from the other? — *KARL M CHWOROWSKY, Minneapolis-Tribune.* 35

WEATHER—36

There is no better way to stifle that urge to write a poem about the first snowfall than to get out in it with a shovel.—*W H PLOURD, Nance County Jnl.*

WORK—Play—37

"Work," says an observant boy, "is something that other people think of for you to do. Play is what you think of yourself." — *Watchman-Examiner.*



The Golden Legend
Conforming to custom, QUOTE confines its book selections during the pre-Christmas period to religious themes. The excerpt here presented is abridged from Chapters for the Orthodox (Doubleday), by DON MARQUIS.

Jesus of Nazareth had been going about N Y for more than a yr, and the rumors of his various quiet activities had come to the ears of certain persons who liked them none too well. It was not the occasional miracles which he had been performing; the offensive and dangerous thing was the way he sometimes talked with people. People would listen to him, and then go and do the most extraordinary things without any respect at all for the established order.

A miracle is a miracle; there it is, and that's that; you can take it or leave it, believe in it or not; you can call it supernatural or supremely natural; in any event, it need have very little effect upon general human conduct . . .

But ethical ideas are different. They are loaded. They are also dangerous. Under the influence of an ethical idea any meek little rabbit of a Long Island commuter is apt to get off the 8:57 train and run down to the Wall St district and bite the fiercest financial bulldog there . . .

Something would have to be done about Jesus . . . but what? Three or 4 doz men prominent in the life of the city met one evening in a bldg in uptown N Y. There were politicians, bankers, commercial magnates, newspaper proprietors and editors, representatives of several Christian denominations, in the solemn assemblage — in short, the Best People of the community, the people interested in seeing that the current system of civilized society should suffer no overthrow at the hands of idealistic radicals.

One queer thing about the meeting was, that while all knew well enough that the man was really Jesus of Nazareth, they seldom referred to him by that appellation. They called him "Josephson," and several other names.

"Josephson is an anarchist," said one, who had a prominent place in municipal affairs. "He was clubbed by police down in Union Square the other day, and that proves it."

A well-known radical, who was frequently described as a Philoso-

phical Anarchist, got up and denied that Jesus was an anarchist.

He was also repudiated by a Communist, a Socialist, a Bolshevik sympathizer, a Holy Roller, a Theosophist, an Internat'l Banker, a Prohibitionist, and a Vegetarian. Just a wk or 2 previously, before public sentiment had begun to crystallize against him, all these people, and a good many more, had been eagerly claiming him as one of themselves, trying to gild their Causes with his name.

"He isn't orthodox," said a Protestant minister, conspicuous for yrs as a thundering Modernist.

"Orthodox—you make me laugh!" This was from a priest of the Greek Church. "As far as I can see, there's no one here, except myself, who can lay the slightest claim to being an Orthodox Christian." A Roman Catholic priest demurred to this, and the revival of a classic controversy was imminent . . .

Jesus came in guarded by 2 policemen . . . And charges went on . . .

Finally, the editor of an important paper got up . . . slowly, as if he were somehow impelled to rise. "We might as well get some honesty behind this thing. All these charges of law violation, blasphemy, and sacrilege are nonsense. We want to eliminate him because he means, sincerely and effectively, the application of the Christian ideal to our current society. There's this about idealism, and particularly about Christian idealism—some people are able to take it, undiluted, and practice it. But most people are not. Humanity is not yet ready for a thoroughgoing Christian ethic. We are in an intermediate state, and we can't stand too much spirituality. Prophets of an absolute idealism confuse us, and earn our enmity. We can't live with them, and we can't live in a state of society dominated by them. We simply *aren't* all spirit; if we try to act as if we were, it leads to a disintegration of what we *really* are. We feel this absolute idealism,

this absolute spirituality, as an enemy. This man said once, yrs ago, that he brought a sword into the world; and he did, and now he has come back here again to sharpen the sword. We've got to get rid of him, or go ourselves.

"There is the issue, squarely joined. Do you want the world to go on very much like it is going on now; or do you want it changed in accordance with the Christian ideal? For my part, I couldn't stand it if it were changed. The Christian ideas and ideals, if they were really put into practice, instead of being merely talked about, in churches and elsewhere, would burst the world asunder. Cover them up with any sort of talk or clever explication you like, attempt to explain them away if you will, the fact is that if they are really put into effect it means a revolution in every dept of human life, an overturning of all our cherished institutions. Do we believe in these ideals enough to follow thru with them to the limit, to face all that their sincere practice connotes? I don't, for one!"

He sat down. Jesus spoke for the 1st time. He went to the end of the nave, where a statue of Christ on the cross faced the main body of the church. Directly opposite, blazoned on the wall in prodigious gold lettering, were the words THE GREATEST OF THESE IS CHARITY.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I am minded to save you a certain amt of trouble. At the same time, I cannot allow you to dodge your share of responsibility."

With these words, the Christ upon the cross was suddenly gone. An instant later, Jesus himself had taken its place; he seemed to have turned to stone there. He backed up to it, his arms spread wide, and crucified himself. It all happened so quickly and so strangely that most of those in the church thought nothing had happened.

But many began to see a look on the face of the statue which they had never noticed before — a faint smile, too good-natured to be really satirical, altho partaking somewhat of the element of satire, too. This element of satire, perhaps, having something to do with the fact that the eyes of the statue are fixed all day long upon the golden legend opposite: THE GREATEST OF THESE IS CHARITY.

GOOD STORIES

You Can Use

A bride-to-be was showing her friend a list of guests to be invited to the wedding.

After her friend had read the names she looked puzzled.

"What's the matter?" asked the bride-to-be.

"Isn't it rather strange," queried the friend, "you have only put down the names of married couples?"

"Yes, that was Jack's idea. Don't you think it's rather clever? He says that if we invite only married people the presents will be all clear profit."—*Financial Post.* a

" " There is a joke currently circulating in Yugoslavia that 95% of the people are for Marshal Tito—5% for Tito and 90% for Marshall, the U S Sec'y of State.—*World Report.* b

" " Washington, said Edgar Morris, is a nice town. He baited the hook with a jibe: "A friend of mine has been finding a new job for a young colored man who came from his home town in N C. The other day he said the youngster had the best job of his life.

"He's working for the Important People's Club. Long hrs, but good pay and easy work."

"What does he do?"

"He goes around feeling the mbrs to see if they're still warm!"—*Nation's Business.* c

" " A sedate old gentleman was walking along Hollywood Blvd which was dolled up with the lamp posts covered with synthetic snow, false whiskers and colored ornaments. He was taking it all in with a glassy eye, when a Christmas tree vendor approached him, and asked whether he had bought his tree yet.

The old gentleman nodded, "Yes, and I'm going to have my broker decorate my tree."

Puzzled, the Christmas tree merchant asked, "Why your broker?"

The old gentleman smiled grimly. "It's the only thing he hasn't trimmed." — JACK BENNY, *Nat'l Home Monthly.* d

" " A gentleman who attended a banquet of big-shot local bankers

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

BENJ H WOODSON, Exec V-Pres
Commonwealth Life Ins Co

When a presiding officer has given me an uncommonly lavish introduction, here is a little story I often tell, to bring out the point that I do not take his praise too seriously.

A newly-rich individual, sadly lacking in social graces, was invited to dinner in a fashionable household. As the soup was served he grabbed a spoon and fell to with a will. Discovering that it was much too hot to handle, he promptly proceeded to return it to the bowl via the simplest and most direct route.

Then, looking up, he observed the horrified countenance of the hostess, and remarked sheepishly, "Well, after all, some guys would'a been fool enough to have swallowed that!"

the other night informed us that the main speaker of the evening gave a 40-min argument in favor of a return to the wholesome virtues that have made this country what it is today and wound up proclaiming, "One thing I would like each and every one of you to promote thruout the rest of the yr is the simple 5-letter word 'thrif!'" —*New Yorker.* e

" " A couple of old college pals met one day and were discussing this and that and finally got to the job subject. "What type of work are you doing now, Jim?"

"Why, the usual advertising run, nothing extra. What's new with you?"

"Why, I hold the position as psychiatrist at a pottery factory."

"Psychiatrist at a pottery factory?"

"Yeh, I take care of the cracked pots."—*Reformatory Pillar.* f

Then there was the bitter golf match between 2 Scots under a broiling sun, in which one of them had a stroke—and the other made him count it.—*Grit.* g

" " Two men were sitting in a discussion group in an Army camp and the conversation somehow drifted to the topic of reincarnation. A certain pvt, a firm believer in the subject, was giving his views to the most disliked sgt in the camp.

"Yes," he said, "when we die we always ret'n as something or someone else."

"Rubbish," snapped the sgt, "do you mean to say that if I died I might come back as a worm?"

"Not a hope," interjected one of the men, seizing an opportunity. "You're never the same thing twice!"—*Prattler.* h

" " An old form of Hollywood humor, the economy gag, has been revived. The trade paper, *Daily Variety*, printed an item about an independent producer who had kept a succession of writers on salary for 4 yrs preparing a scenario. But, said *Variety*, the other day he took the current scenarist off salary for 24 hrs—while the book, from which the writer was deriving the script, was being renewed at the library.—*N Y Times.* i

" " A univ student who had come under the spell of the modern impulse instruction, came to the exam question, "What causes a depression?" He wrote, "God knows! I don't! Merry Christmas."

When the exam paper came back, he found the prof's notation, "God gets 100, you get 0. Happy New Yr!"—*Sunshine Magazine.* j

" " A young couple were out riding for the first time when suddenly the young man threw his arm around the girl and planted a quick kiss on her mouth.

"How dare you?" said the girl,

indignantly. "You deliberately stole that!"

"I did not steal it," coolly repl'd the young man. "I took it right out from under your nose." — EARL A BLACKMAN. k

Tidings of Great Joy

The gifts are bought, the cards are writ,
The tree is trimmed, and this is it!

Coyne's 'neath the mistletoe;
Faces shining, hearts aglow;
Rousing blessings on St Nick;
Kin arriving fast and thick;
Savory delights that waft
Thru the house both fore and aft,

Making appetites engage
In a gastronomic rage;
Carols sung around the tree;
Toasts delivered gallantly;
Then the feasting, climax to
Seeing Yuletide safely thru.
Finally the midnight chime
Marks the end of Christmas-time.

What a day, so rife with cheer—
God rest ye merry till next yr!
—GATES HEBBARD, *Gourmet*. l

Mrs Smith was vigorously powdering her face before going out.

"Why do you go thru all that trouble?" asked Smith, who was waiting impatiently.

"Modesty, my dear," was the reply.

"Modesty?"

"Yes—I've no desire to shine in public."—*Capper's Wkly*. m

The high point of the kiddies' party had arrived. The hostess tripped triumphantly into the tensely anticipative room bearing a heaping platter of gelatine dessert. As she placed it on the table, it quivered and shook. Most of the youngsters shouted with delight. But one, a pudgy, tow-headed boy, started to leave the table.

"None of that stuff for me," he announced firmly. "It ain't dead yet." — WILLIAM C LANE, *Miami Herald*. n

A more or less mythical minister disappeared each day at 4 in the afternoon. His wife was troubled

and spoke to the deacons about it. They discussed the matter with him but got no satisfaction. When the chairman of the board of trustees broached the matter, the minister said, "Well, come along if you must." He took him down to the ry track just as one of the new-fangled trains scooted by. He turned to the chairman of his board and said, "It does my soul good to see something which is really going which I do not have to push."—*Advance*. o

A lady took her little girl to a dep't store to see Santa Claus. The Santa Claus gave the child an apple. The mother said to her: "Now what do you say to Santa Claus?" The little girl repl'd: "Peel it!"—*Opportunity*. p

No sooner is a freshman seated in his 1st class room than he encounters a set of questions designed to reveal his inmost soul to the dean or some folksy instructor. A Princeton freshman, thus asked why he came to Princeton, repl'd: "Mother liked the trees."—*Jnl of Education*. q

In a Denver store, a little girl, after having enumerated her desires to Santa Claus, came down off the ramp and suddenly whirled about and shrilled:

"And my mommy says she wants you to bring her a new husband for Christmas."

It was a great moment for the crowd; not for "mommy."—EARL N POMEROY, *Denver Post*. r

Of all the angling stories I think my favorite is the one which George Graves tells of an experience of his while fishing from a pier. He caught a fair-sized crab but, not wanting it, he threw it back into the sea. He re-baited his hook, sat back in his chair and went to sleep. How long he slept he did not know but on waking he was surprised to find himself surrounded by fish of all shapes and sizes. He got up to look at his line, and there, clambering up claw over claw, was the grateful crab, bringing up yet another fish to lay as a

WISECRACKS

OF THE WEEK



"Money talks" is an obsolete phrase. It goes without saying.—*New Orleans Times-Picayune*.

Wise husbands don't criticize their wives' clothes too freely. They just make allowances for them.—*Punch*. (London)

Some UN delegates must think they are conferring at Four Flushing Meadows.—DON IDDON, *London Daily Mail*.

WOLF: A male who devotes the best leers of his life to women.—*Rose Technic*.

Merry Christmas and a swift New Year.—Stillwater (Minn) *Prison Mirror*.

This is the season of the yr when gentlemen befur blonds.—WIN ELIOTT, *radio program*.

thank-offering at his preserver's feet.—FRANK LANE, *English Digest*. (London)

Ned Shuter, the village handyman, was painting Martha Stiver's barn, when the kindly woman came out and, observing a rent in Ned's coat, exclaimed, "You don't look so neat, Ned, since your daughter went away. Would you like to have me mend that tear in your coat?"

Highland proverb: A patch is better than a hole, but a hole is more gentlemanly.—*Countryman*. (England)

"Thankee just the same, Miz Stivers," the philosophical Ned repl'd, "but I guess I'll just leave it like it is. You see, Miz Stivers, a tear in a garment may be only the accident of a day—but a patch is just plain, premeditated poverty." —*Christian Science Monitor*. t



Mining

THE MAGAZINES

Boom or Depression?—Figure It Out for Yourself

Good Omens:

1. Employment at all-time high. More than 60 million Americans working for "pay or profit." Fully 1 million women have gone back to jobs since Jan 1—many to help husbands "make ends meet." Skilled workers still scarce.

2. Income payments to individuals more than double prewar in 1st half altho purchasing power of dollar sadly shrunk.

3. First half retail sales (in dollars) 2½ times as large as in 1939.

4. No signs of decline in demand for "durables" (hard goods) such as motor vehicles, refrigerators, ry equipment and mach'y.

5. Record - breaking agricultural income has made farmers rich. Total estimated assets of \$100 billion, four times prewar.

6. Exports zoomed to annual rate of \$18 billion—6 times 1939—but overseas dollar supply is drying up fast and June exports fell off 15%. Exports crumbled in 1921 for lack of foreign cash.

7. Retail stores have started cautious rebuilding of stocks but policy of purchasing agents is mainly hand-to-mouth or 60 days.

8. Production per factory employe rising gradually in most industries.

9. Volume of necessitous repair work—residential and non-residential — has expanded substantially, calling for use of more mat'ls.

Bad Omens:

1. Broadening of inflation spiral, checked temporarily, restarted by steel-coal settlement and virtual certainty of higher costs, higher prices, for most consumers' goods.

2. Administration's program to "stop Russia" in western Europe, Asia, Africa, threatens U S with impoverishment if carried thru.

3. Congress extended gov't controls over exports and imports.

4. Savings by individuals fell in 1st quarter to lowest level since 1940. Cash and deposits dropped \$1,800,000,000 but holdings of U S bonds rose \$1,900,000,000. This was caution signal.

5. Mfrs' inventories of finished goods of numerous types increased somewhat alarmingly in 1st half.

6. Residential, business and industrial construction has fallen far below expectations because of fantastic costs.

7. Some commodities slipping as pipelines fill. Despite sheet dearth all steel companies have surpluses of some products. Hardest hit are rubber and copper. In Akron there is considerable unemployment.

8. Production of non - durables, particularly textiles, dropped slowly but steadily thruout 1st half.

9. High prices, fear of future, have led many families to defer buying.—*Motor Magazine*.

A Christmas Letter To Ivan Ivanovitch

Dear Ivan:

They say—the important people who are supposed to know — that there is going to be a war between your country and my country. While I am only an ordinary man, it does not seem to me that there ever has been a quarrel important enough to justify the killing of per-

haps a hundred million people. If you think this kind of talk makes sense let's discuss the situation, just 2 plain citizens of 2 great countries.

We Yanks are people, just as you Russians are, with the usual virtues and foibles. We breathe, sleep, eat. We love sometimes—tho not as often or as consistently as we should. Some of us hate sometimes

—but we have no hatred for you Russian people. We do not want war. I have never heard that the Russian masses hate us Yanks. I don't believe you do. Then why should we fight?

My gov't asked an appropriation of many millions of dollars to finance propaganda to inform you about the U S and its people. This seems odd to me. I have never yet paid money to get acquainted with a man. I doubt if I should like a man if I did have to pay money to get acquainted with him. The way for men of good will to get acquainted is to get together for work and play, to see things together and talk about them and increase mutual understanding. Why can't we get together?

I hear that you are devoted to your communistic form of gov't. That is all right with me. I like the free enterprise system, because under it my people have found great prosperity and freedom—but I have no desire to thrust it on you. I believe you are a good fellow at heart. You and I have never had any cross words. All the quarreling is being done by our leaders, the supposedly big and wise persons. Maybe we should begin asking why.

A war between our countries would probably ruin them both and leave the world in chaos. You and I and our loved ones might not even live to see this chaos. It would be stupid to let the catastrophe of war happen. Let's talk about good will, and be at peace.

Are you mad at me Ivan? I'm not mad at you.

Sincerely yours for peace,
A Yank.

—Good Business.

This WACKY WORLD

Sign on liquor truck: "When Low in Spirits Visit Us."

" "

High school boy's complaint against "new look": "We can't appreciate the flower of womanhood when we can't see the stems."

